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### BOOK REVIEWS.

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All book reviews are by the Editor-in-Chief unless otherwise expressly stated.

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**Poems of John R. Thompson**, edited, with a biographical introduction by John S. Patton, Librarian of the University of Virginia: (from whom copies may be obtained.) (University of Virginia Edition.) New York. Charles Scribner's Son. 1920. Price \$2.00.

Mr. Patton has rendered to American Literature a distinct and valuable service in this work, which has brought from neglect and wellnigh oblivion the poems of this cultivated and distinguished Virginian.

It was no easy task; Thompson's poems had never been collected. They lay buried in newspapers, magazines and some remained only in manuscript in the hands of friends. They were worthy of permanent preservation and will in the attractive shape in which they are presented to the public, receive we are sure, welcome and approval.

Thompson was a true poet. He had a keen sense of rhyme and rhythm; a delicate touch and sympathetic appreciation of the music of words; a vivid imagination and sense of the beautiful. His "war poems" are in our opinion amongst the very best, if not the best written during that fearful time. "Lee to the Rear," "The Burial of Latané," and "J. E. B. Stuart" are stirring lyrics that must survive to all time. "Music in Camp" is a beautiful presentation in beautiful lines of a tender incident in our great struggle. His sonnets are remarkably good, and the long poem read at the Alumni meeting at the University in 1869 is far above the average of such poems. It is musical, well conceived and worthy of a place amongst the highest poems of this Country.

As a translator of foreign verse, Thompson cannot be surpassed and it is to be deeply regretted that he did not do more of this kind of work. He seemed to be able to catch not only the idea of the author, but possessed the genius to render his very thoughts in his very words, as far as the words in one language can be used for those of another.

His translation of Beranger's *Le Grenier* is unsurpassed by anything we know and that of Heine's "*Wo*" is simply a *tour de force*.

"Carcassone" in his hands becomes an English rendition of the French poem, so that it appears as if Thompson had actually gotten into the very soul and brain of Nadaud.

Mr. Patton's biographical introduction is worthier of a better

name. It is really a short critical biography splendidly and sympathetically done.

Americans and above all Virginians, should make haste to enjoy this volume and help to make widely known these poems of a Virginia author, who deserves to take high rank amongst our American poets.

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**A Treatise on International Law**, with an Introductory Essay on The Definition and Nature of the Laws of Human Conduct, by Roland R. Foulke, of the Philadelphia Bar. 2 Volumes. The John C. Winston Company, Publishers, Winston Building, Philadelphia. 1920. Price \$15.00 net.

We have been very much struck not only with the matter of this very admirable treatise, but with its arrangement. The author has evidently read and carefully studied his Montesquieu and whilst of course the two treatises are upon different subjects, yet, in the philosophical way in which the book is written we can see that the author has followed to some extent the splendid arrangement of that great author's work. As the author has said, this book is an "attempt to clear away some of the many obscurities and misconceptions which pervade the subject of international law and which are not only discouraging to the student but irritating to the mature reader." Certainly Mr. Foulke has very well succeeded in his attempt. Any one reading the book carefully will certainly have, if not an exact and comprehensive knowledge of the subject, as much knowledge as can possibly be gained from any one book. We are pleased with its logical arrangement, with the precise, philosophical and scientific way in which the subject is put. The definition of terms is fully given, and the index furnishes a means of ready reference to all parts of the treatise. We are particularly well pleased with the table of International Persons given at the end of the volume, though of course, coming down only to 1914, re-arrangement to a large extent becomes necessary. We can recommend this work, not only as able and instructive but as furnishing as pleasant reading as such a subject can afford.